

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Cancel claims 1-3, 5, 49, 51-65, 67-80 and 82-92.

Add new claims

Listing of Claims:

1-92. (Canceled)

93. (New) A method for displaying a message indicator in association with a predetermined interval of playback of a video and for providing text messages synchronized to playback of the video from a DVD, the method comprising:

detecting a user selection of the video from the DVD for playback;

accessing a remote database in response to the detecting a user selection of the video from the DVD for playback;

playing back the video production;

displaying the message indicator substantially during the predetermined interval of playback of the video;

determining that a user has selected the message indicator while the message indicator is displayed;

identifying messages in the remote database, wherein the identified messages are associated with the video for display at predetermined times during playback of the video;

playing back the video from the DVD;

determining a point in playback of the video; and

in response to determining the point in playback, displaying at least a portion of the particular message from the identified messages in response to the user selection of the message indicator, wherein the message is included in a thread of a plurality of messages.

94. (New) The method of claim 93, wherein displaying of the video and the particular message are on a single display device.

95. (New) The method of claim 93, wherein a time code is associated with the particular message, wherein detecting further comprises:

matching the time code with the point in playback of the video.

96. (New) The method of claim 93, wherein the DVD includes multiple videos.

97. (New) The method of claim 96, wherein a first video has an associated first group of messages and wherein a second video has an associated second group of messages.

98. (New) The method of claim 93, wherein at least a portion of the messages begin transfer from the database to a playback system prior to viewer selection of a particular video.

99. (New) The method of claim 93, wherein the video includes a plurality of segments, wherein a particular segment includes a set of messages associated with the particular segment.

100. (New) The method of claim 99, further comprising:

transferring the messages associated with the particular segment prior to a user selecting playback of the particular segment.

101. (New) The method of claim 93, further comprising:

obtaining an index, wherein the index includes a list of media files on the DVD to which messages are associated.

102. (New) The method of claim 101, wherein the index includes subject heading information.

103. (New) The method of claim 93, further comprising:

sensing insertion of the DVD into a DVD player;

accessing the remote database automatically in response to the sensing.

104. (New) The method of claim 103, further comprising:
in response to the sensing, detecting encoded information in the DVD; and
wherein accessing the remote database includes providing the detected encoded
information to the remote database.

105. (New) An apparatus for displaying a message indicator in association with a
predetermined interval of playback of a video and for providing text messages synchronized to
playback of the video from a DVD, the apparatus comprising:

- a processor;
- a computer-readable storage device including instructions executable by the processor for
detecting a user selection of the video from the DVD for playback;
accessing a remote database in response to the detecting a user selection of the video
from the DVD for playback;
- playing back the video production;
- displaying the message indicator substantially during the predetermined interval of
playback of the video;
- determining that a user has selected the message indicator while the message indicator is
displayed;
- identifying messages in the remote database, wherein the identified messages are
associated with the video for display at predetermined times during playback of the video;
- playing back the video from the DVD;
- determining a point in playback of the video; and
- in response to determining the point in playback, displaying at least a portion of the
particular message from the identified messages in response to the user selection of the message
indicator, wherein the message is included in a thread of a plurality of messages.

106. (New) A computer-readable storage device including instructions for a method for
displaying a message indicator in association with a predetermined interval of playback of a
video and for providing text messages synchronized to playback of the video from a DVD, the
computer-readable storage device comprising one or more instructions for:

- detecting a user selection of the video from the DVD for playback;

accessing a remote database in response to the detecting a user selection of the video from the DVD for playback;

playing back the video production;

displaying the message indicator substantially during the predetermined interval of playback of the video;

determining that a user has selected the message indicator while the message indicator is displayed;

identifying messages in the remote database, wherein the identified messages are associated with the video for display at predetermined times during playback of the video;

playing back the video from the DVD;

determining a point in playback of the video; and

in response to determining the point in playback, displaying at least a portion of the particular message from the identified messages in response to the user selection of the message indicator, wherein the message is included in a thread of a plurality of messages.